

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:ESWALKER:LAB

8/14/73 EXT. 22030

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.

IO (INFO)

S/S-O: P.P. SARROS

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O 142334Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161216

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRN, LE, IS, UN

SUBJECT: ISRAELI REACTION TO LEBANESE DRAFT RESOLUTION

REF.: USUN 2865

1. ISRAELI COUNSELOR RAVIV AGAIN CALLED NEA DEPSEC  
ATHERTON AFTERNOON AUGUST 14 TO REITERATE ISRAELI CONCERN  
ABOUT LEBANESE DRAFT RES. RAVIV INDICATED THAT HE HAD  
SEEN LATEST TEXT OF THE DRAFT RES AND WONDERED IF INFORMA-  
TION HE HAD WAS CORRECT THAT US HAD GIVEN ITS OKAY TO RES.  
DRAFT INCLUDES CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL AND SANCTIONS, AND  
IT IS INCONCEIVABLE US COULD SUPPORT IT. ATHERTON SAID  
THAT WE HAVE NOT YET GIVEN OUR AGREEMENT TO ANY TEXT AND  
THAT MATTER IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION AT UN BETWEEN AMB.  
SCALI AND GHORRA. WE ARE TRYING HARD, AND WE FEEL THAT  
IF ISRAEL WILL COMPARE TODAY'S TEXT WITH YESTERDAY'S, IT  
WILL FIND CHANGES TO BE AN IMPROVEMENT. RAVIV SAID HE  
DOES NOT DENY THIS, BUT THERE ARE TWO SPECIFIC ELEMENTS IN  
TEXT: ONE IS CONDEMNATION OF GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL, AND  
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SECOND IS TALK OF ICAO ACTION AND WARNING OF ADEQUATE

MEASURES. THESE HAVE TO BE TAKEN AS CALLING FOR SANCTIONS.

2. ATHERTON SAID HE HAD TEXT AND KNEW WELL EFFORTS WE HAVE BEEN MAKING WITH LEBANESE ON QUESTION, BUT POINT WE HAVE TO MAKE IS THAT THIS IS VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION AND THERE IS A LIMIT TO OUR ABILITY, OR ISRAEL'S, TO DO

ANYTHING, GIVEN SITUATION WE ARE DEALING WITH. WE HAVE TO TAKE FACT OF INCIDENT ITSELF AS A STARTING POINT. RAVIV ASKED WHAT US INTENDED TO DO. IF US IS UNABLE TO AMEND THIS TEXT, WHAT DOES GHORRA ANTICIPATE THAT US IS GOING TO DO ABOUT THIS RES. ATHERTON SAID THAT GHORRA CLEARLY HOPES HE WILL HAVE US SUPPORT, BUT WE HAVE NOT AT THIS POINT INDICATED ANY COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT RES. WE DON'T WANT TO MISLEAD ISRAEL INTO THINKING THAT ULTIMATE RES WILL COME OUT MUCH DIFFERENT THAN CURRENT VERSION. RAVIV AGAIN ASKED IF US WOULD SUPPORT SUCH A RES. ATHERTON REPLIED THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO SAY WE WOULD SUPPORT IT BUT ALSO UNABLE TO SAY WE WOULD NOT; WE ARE STILL IN THE PROCESS OF DISCUSSING DRAFT. WE WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE.

3. RAVIV ASKED IF BRITAIN AND FRANCE WERE INTENDING TO SPONSOR RES. ATHERTON REPLIED THAT HE JUST DID NOT KNOW WHO SPONSORS WOULD BE. RAVIV COMMENTED THAT BRITISH AND FRENCH SPONSORSHIP WOULD DEPEND ON US STAND. IF BRITISH AND FRENCH BELIEVE RES IS OBJECTIONABLE TO US, THEY WILL NOT SPONSOR RES. ATHERTON SAID HE WAS NOT SO SURE THAT THIS ASSESSMENT WAS CORRECT, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF LAST GO-ROUND WE HAD IN SECURITY COUNCIL.

4. RAVIV SAID THAT HE WAS EXTREMELY DISTURBED AND COULD NOT CONCEIVE OF US GIVING ITS APPROVAL TO SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL. ATHERTON SAID THAT WE ARE NOT INTERPRETING THIS AS A CALL FOR SANCTIONS. WE WILL CERTAINLY MAKE THIS CLEAR IN OUR STATEMENT. RAVIV OBJECTED THAT TALK OF ADEQUATE MEASURES AND EFFECTIVE STEPS CAN ONLY BE SEEN AS SANCTIONS IN LIGHT OF UN CHARTER. ATHERTON AGAIN SAID THAT OUR INTERPRETATION IS THAT THIS LANGUAGE IS NOT A COMMITMENT TO SANCTIONS.

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5. RAVIV SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO WAIT FOR RETURN OF AMBASSADOR DINITZ FROM N.Y. BUT EXPECTED THAT DINITZ WOULD WANT TO TAKE THIS UP WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO IN MORNING. ATHERTON ASSURED RAVIV THAT HE WOULD PASS ON EXACTLY WHAT RAVIV HAD SAID AND OUR DOOR WAS ALWAYS OPEN.

6. RAVIV CALLED BACK A FEW MINUTES LATER TO ENSURE THAT

RESOLUTION WOULD NOT BE TABLED UNTIL DINITZ HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH SISCO IN MORNING. ATHERTON INDICATED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW PRECISE TIMETABLE BUT RESOLUTION WILL CERTAINLY NOT COME TO VOTE TONIGHT. RAVIV SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT IF GHORRA GETS AGREEMENT OF EGYPT, THEN RESOLUTION WILL BE TABLED TONIGHT. HE URGED THAT US DO WHAT IT CAN TO SEE THAT THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN SINCE IT WILL MAKE THINGS FAR MORE DIFFICULT. ATHERTON

ASSURED RAVIV THAT HE WOULD PASS ON RAVIV'S CONCERN AND WOULD TAKE IT AS ISRAEL'S OFFICIAL REQUEST. WE WILL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO. ROGERS

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